



This first half term has flown by! Our community has achieved so much in these first weeks of this school year. All our children have taken up the challenges of their new classes and settled back to learning. It has been lovely to welcome our Reception new starters, new faces to preschool and in other classes across school. Thank you for the ways in which you have supported your children and our school community.

Thank you to all our staff and teachers for setting up inspiring learning environments, ethos and culture, for establishing familiar routines and encouraging enthusiasm around the learning themes for the Autumn term.



In half a term, our community have achieved so many different things. The newsfeed on our school website, Facebook and Twitter shows just how much happens across school, it gives a real insight into our school and provides a great prompt for asking your child about their learning. www.wybunburydelves.co.uk

School is very settled, the children are a real credit in how they adapt and respond and enjoy school.



Staffing: We have welcomed Helen and Kim to our Preschool team, Miss Piggott to our Reception class team, Miss Tripp to our Upper Key Stage 2 team this term. We hope they are enjoying being a part of our Wybunbury Delves family! Sadly we have said goodbye to Mrs Samms a few ago and on Friday we say goodbye to Miss Greatbanks – we wish them both well in their new ventures. Libby will be leaving us at the beginning of December to commence her maternity leave, news will follow regarding who will cover the position.



Miss McCurrie will be returning from maternity leave in January 2023, we will be seeing her in school over next half term as she completes some 'Keeping in Touch' days to get herself ready to return. Sadly, this means we will be saying goodbye to



Miss Holliwel at the end of next half term – we thank her for her hard work and dedication to our school and wish her all the best with the next steps of her career. Miss McCurrie will return as our Deputy Head and Year 3 teacher but she is not returning as a full time member of staff, so Mrs Jenkins will be taking on more time in school and sharing the Year 3 class teacher role with Miss McCurrie. Mrs Jenkins will continue in her role as PE teacher.

Like many schools we are struggling to secure cover in the absence of staff, we will always try to cover internally to provide a familiar face for your child but there are times when supply cover is necessary and if we cannot secure cover our only option is to put children together with the staff we have.



CDAT are now a Schools Direct provider for initial teacher training, we have welcomed two associate teachers to our team this term Miss Piotrowicz to Year 2 and Miss Malcom to Year 5. They have been in two days a week this half term and will spend the entire half term with us after the half term break; they will then leave us for the spring term and go to another school for a different experience then return back to us in the summer term.

200th Anniversary: We started our school year by sharing some very special post which arrived over the summer holidays. We had written to Her Majesty, the Queen, earlier in the year to congratulate her on her Platinum Jubilee and to share our own exciting anniversary celebrations; the post delivered a card and letter from Windsor Castle.



Sadly just a couple of days later, we all received the very sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Across school we reflected on the life and service of the Queen; we wrote memories, tributes and prayers and gave thanks for a life well lived. Miss Haynes travelled to London for the funeral. She took with her a collection of some of the children's prayers, drawings and cards created at school. They were placed in the Hyde Park memorial gardens with some sunflowers just after the state funeral. Rest peacefully Your Majesty.



New Starters Service: Year 6 led a lovely service of welcome to our Reception children at the end of September. The service shared our school aims, vision and ethos through Bible readings, prayers and song. Each child received a 'goodie bag' as a welcome.

Matthew 5:14-16: "Here's another way to put it: You are here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand; shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."



Harvest: 'Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever' 1 Chronicles 16: 34 This year our Key Stage 2 children led our Harvest worship at church – it was lovely to see families joining us. Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed Messy Church at St. Chad's – thank you to Mrs Ward and the teachers for organising this beautiful harvest celebration. Reception shared a lovely video explaining about the Food Bank and the local need. A huge thank you for your kind donations towards the Nantwich Food Bank.



Class Worship: It was lovely to welcome our families back into school on Friday for our first class worship this year. Year 5 did a wonderful job! They clearly told us about how we need to 'Save the Bees!' We look forward to seeing how you continue to lead our community in making a difference. Year 6 are excited to be sharing this week with their families. The dates for the other classes can be found on our school calendar: <https://www.wybunburydelves.co.uk/calendar.html> Our class worships across this term are highlighting a cause which each class will become champions for this year — it is about making a difference to our school, our community and the wider world. We look forward to welcoming parents/carers of our other classes across the rest of the term. 'Be who God meant you to be and set the world on fire.' St. Catherine of Siena



Christmas Worships and Nativities: This year we are already planning for our Christmas celebrations. Preschool and Reception will be sharing virtually. We are planning a Messy Church session for Reception on 12th December – times to follow. Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing a Nativity in the hall. Booking will be required and there will be a limit of 2 bookings per child across the 2 dates – this is due to our fire risk assessment and the numbers we can accommodate in the hall; there will be a booking limit applied to both sessions. Young children will be welcome on Friday 8th December session – they will need to be sat on carer's knees and taken out if they become restless (they do not need a booking) KS2 will lead a service at St. Chad's on Tuesday 13th December 9.30am; again we will require a booking and due to the number the church can accommodate and the number of children; it will be limited to 1 adult per child. Christmas dinner is booked in our diary for 14th December, a menu and booking will come out nearer the time. Our Christmas party day will be the last day of term – Friday 16th December.



Sporting News: Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed a football tournament at the Crewe Alex Football centre last week; they were fantastic and represented school well. We had a large number of children signed up for cross country but unfortunately it was cancelled, but a huge thank you to Mr Dale for setting up on our field instead. Mr Dale has been busy organising sporting taster sessions in school – we have enjoyed Tae Kwondo and this week, boxing! We are booked into other competitions next half term and we are hoping the KS2 football league matches will be back.



PTA – they are doing a brilliant job at supporting our school and coming up with great ideas to engage our community and raise money for our school. A huge thank you to the PTA officers, committee and the volunteers who support. They are always looking for volunteers to help with events! The amphitheatre is now complete and we are moving to our next fundraising projects. We are very much looking forward to the Firework night and all they have planned for the year. You can keep up to date with all they are doing by following their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/wybunburydelvespta/>

Thursday 3rd November - Fireworks Extravaganza: Our 200 years celebrations continue with our first ever fireworks evening. There will be an array of fun stalls, including a bar, hot food and games for all the family to enjoy. Gates open at 5.30pm and the fireworks will begin at 7pm.

Grab yourself your advanced tickets now at a discounted rate-

Adults (18+) £5
Children (3 -17) £2
2 and under - FOC

Advanced ticket sales close on Monday 31st October. Reserve tickets now by following the link <https://forms.gle/eiALJzF18cZc4t2A7>

Tickets will then be available on the gate at the event at the following prices - Adults (18+) £6; Children (3 -17) £3

We are so excited about this event and hope to see lots of you there. Family, friends and the local community are all welcome!



Reception Place 2023 Applications: The deadline for applications for Reception 2023 is January 15th. We have an open evening event coming up on Thursday 10th November for families new to school to come and have a look around. We are blessed with a beautiful school and grounds, if you know of families with children due to start school, please encourage them to visit!

School Dinners: After half term a new menu will be in place. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive meals through the universal free school meals scheme. Meals for children in KS2 (Year3-6) cost £2.50 a day and these are added to your ParentPay account. Please keep on top of paying for meals.

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium: If you qualify for Free School Meals (FSM), regardless of whether you are in Reception, KS1 or KS2, there are benefits to be had both to yourselves and to school. Even if you find yourselves in a temporary situation of low income and at that point meet the Free School Meal criteria, school receives Pupil Premium for the period of receiving FSM and for 6 years afterwards. It is completely confidential if you do qualify. School can use Pupil Premium towards visits/visitors/part payment towards residential visits. It is only available to those who qualify. Pupil Premium is used in school to further resources and staffing, it cannot be used to subsidise OOSC or holiday club. Cheshire East website has further information of this very simple process of applying for FSM.

Income related free school meals (IRFSM)

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

We suggest you do make a claim for free school meals even if your child is in key stage 1 as the school can claim additional funding (pupil premium) for new equipment and resources.

You can apply for nursery-age children if they attend before and after lunch sessions at a local authority nursery school, nursery class or an Academy nursery if it has the same Ofsted number as the primary school – this includes us at Wybunbury Delves. Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help.

Household Support Grant. The Department for Work and Pensions have recently notified local authorities that the Household Support Fund has been extended to March 2023, meaning that families can continue to get help with their living costs. Following this news, Cheshire East Council has directly consulted with families who have received supermarket vouchers every holiday period with the help of schools, colleges, early years settings and other family support services across the borough. A survey of eligible families by Cheshire east Council, showed that they would prefer to have one larger payment of supermarket vouchers rather than several smaller voucher payments between now and March 2023. Please note, that this proposal means that there will be no vouchers issued for October half term.

Parent Evening: It was lovely to welcome you into school to hear about how your child has settled.

Our Learning: At the beginning of each term our teachers send the curriculum overview for the term (holistic plan) and a newsletter. This shows the areas of the curriculum being covered for that term. Each week the Teachers provide a news update about the learning in class and the activities for the week – these appear on our website, Facebook and Twitter feeds. We have been busy updating the curriculum area of our website : <https://www.wybunburydelves.co.uk/our-learning.html> It includes long term plans and details about individual subjects.

Visits and Visitors: Last year we surveyed parents/carers about their thoughts on day visits, visitors and residentials. Thank you to those of you who responded. The survey results indicated that you were keen we put these back in place and offered at least two day visits a year and more residentials. Staff have been planning around this. Going out of school takes a lot of staff's time as they negotiate dates, times, workshops and coaches etc. before we even leave the building. We are finding prices are a lot higher post pandemic, we are conscious that everyone's daily living costs are rising and there are difficulties in securing coach travel for a variety of reasons. We are now putting out surveys prior to booking to ensure there is enough support for a visit at the cost which it is coming in at.

Wider Personal Development: There are many activities across the week/term which develop your child beyond their academic achievements. We have been using MyHappyMind, it was created for schools with a very simple mission: to give today's children the skills to thrive in tomorrow's world. The programme gives children the preventative strategies, skills and tools they need to thrive in the modern world. MyHappyMind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves! MyHappyMind is delivered through a series of interactive lessons and then our children will be able to apply these learnings throughout their day. The programme is taught across five modules, and each module introduces a new set of content and habits to help children build resilience, self-esteem and confidence. The first

module this term is called Meet your Brain. We will be in touch with further information related to how Myhappymind resources can be accessed at home.

PHSE worship and activities develop Personal, Health and Social awareness; how we live well together to be respectful, develop positive relationships, stay safe and healthy. Visitors such as PC Nick and the Fire Service regularly visit school to develop importance messages such as Stranger Danger and Fire Safety. We organise special focus weeks across the year e.g. Healthy living or Relationships Week. Our children across school have roles and responsibilities, e.g. cloakroom monitor; fundraiser; friendship squad which help our children to have responsibility, team work and leadership. Through Christian Values we look at what it is to be a good person – to be kind; gentle; show forgiveness; demonstrate self-control, joy, goodness, peace and LOVE.

Forest School: We have been lucky again this year to be able to secure a booking with Mr Hadfield, Head into the Wild, to provide Forest School within curriculum time. Our Y1 to Y6 children will have half a day a week for half a term up to Spring half term. This half term Y4 and Y1 have thoroughly enjoyed the experience, Y5 and Y3 will be next half term, then Y2 and Y6 after Christmas.

Covid Update: We have had confirmed cases in school this half term. The guidance remains that a child should remain at home for at least 3 days for a confirmed case, for staff it is 5 days – this impacts on the delivery of curriculum and which adults are with your children. We ask that you are still very mindful of Covid symptoms and if your child is unwell they stay at home.

Attendance: It is expected that your child is in school every day and our attendance target is 97%. Well done to all of you who have managed 100% attendance this half term!

Reception 96% **Year 1** 98% **Year 2** 98% **Year 3** 98% **Year 4** 94%
Year 5 98% **Year 6** 96%

Well done to **Year 1, 2, 3 and 5** who are our top attenders this half term!

If your child is absent due to a positive covid test then they are recorded in the register as ill, with a Covid subcode.

We ask that medical appointments are, as far as possible, made outside of school hours. If they cannot be arranged at this time, please provide school with a copy of the medical appointment letter for our records. If you take a sibling out of school to attend their brother/sister's appointment, this is an unauthorised absence as the appointment does not relate to them and should only happen if you genuinely have no alternative. Sometimes when your child is ill it is difficult to decide whether or not to send your child into school, especially in the current times, the NHS have produce this useful guide: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/?tabname=self-help-tips>

Fixed Penalty Notices apply to all types of unauthorised absence, not just those accrued through holidays in term time. Holidays within term time cannot be authorised by school.

If 10 or more unauthorised absences (1 absence = ½ day) are accrued over two consecutive terms then school will consult the LA on the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice. The cost of which is £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days, increasing to £120 per parent per child to be paid within 28 days. If it remains unpaid it will be progressed to Court for prosecution. These Fixed Penalty Notices have been introduced as part of the government's drive to improve attendance. Please see our attendance policy on the website.

Please do not phone your child in as ill if you have gone away on holiday or out for the day - the children do tell us where they have been or are going to go! If this happens we will record the absence as unauthorised holiday.

OOSC You are able to book sessions via emailing Clare: oosc@wybunburydelves.co.uk

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal - It's shoe-box time again!!

Last year around 10.5 million boxes were delivered across the world to spread joy to children who live in the midst of war and extreme poverty - thank you everyone. Every single box filled puts a smile on a child's face and is probably the only gift they will receive. Here is a useful link which explains about the organisation, process, how to pack a shoe box and what to put in it. <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> Collection week for the boxes is 14 – 21 November so if you wish to participate it would be wonderful if you could start to put items together for your shoebox. We have shoe boxes available for a small donation if you would like one.



Poppy Appeal Poppies, snap bands, wrist bands, zip pulls and button loops are available for purchase from now until Remembrance Day on behalf of the Royal British Legion. We suggest £1 for wrist/snap bands and a 50p donation for the zip pulls/button loop with a 20p minimum for a poppy. Thank you.

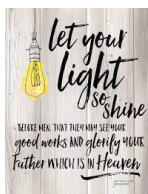


Easyfundraising. As the name suggests, this is easy to do! It costs you no additional money, but it does mean your online purchases can generate cash for school. Thank you to those of you who have been totting up the donations over time for us! Over



4,300 shops and sites (including Amazon and Booking.com) will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wybunburydelves/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-e1

Car parking. We have had several grumbles and complaints about the parking at school, both on the road and on the car park this week. Please park responsibly and use the car park – both parts (the original and the extension)! Please do not queue down the middle waiting for the extension to open, we are unable to open the gates earlier due to lessons taking place and we do not have the staff to supervise the car park. Please ensure you park wholly within a marked bay. Whilst part of the road has no road markings, parking here is dangerous for our children and other road users – please use the car park. We take no responsibility for damage and accidents on our carpark. If you do damage another car, please leave your details.



Hand over times Please ensure your child(ren) are with you at all times and you know where they are. We ask that you monitor their behaviour and respect for our grounds. The children are not allowed to climb on the playground bars, sit/stand on tables or climb the basketball posts during school time and we ask that you do not allow them to when they are in your care too. Balls and equipment inevitably get left out or the children know where it is! Again we ask that it isn't used at drop off/collection times – the playground is very busy and there are people and small children present who can easily get hurt by an unexpected ball coming their way. We ask that our outdoor equipment such as the Fort and Adventure Trail are not used at drop off and collection times.

School Holiday dates These holiday dates are in line with Cheshire East School Holiday dates and may not be the same as other schools such as the high schools – if you have children in more than one school please check all holiday dates for each individual school, do not assume they will be the same.

Term Dates for 2022/2023

Holiday Period	Date of Closing	Date of Re-Opening
Summer 2022	Tuesday 19th July 2022	Monday 5th September 2022
Autumn Half Term 2022	Friday 21st October 2022	Monday 31st October 2022
Christmas 2022/2023	Friday 16th December 2022	Wednesday 4th January 2023
Spring Half Term 2023	Thursday 16th February 2023	Monday 27th February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31st March 2023	Monday 17th April 2023
May Day 2023	Friday 28th April 2023	Tuesday 2nd May 2023
Summer Half Term 2023	Friday 26th May 2023	Monday 5th June 2023
Summer 2023	Thursday 20th July 2023	--

Inset Days 22/23 (already included in calendar above):

- Thursday 1st September
- Friday 2nd September
- Tuesday 3rd January
- Friday 17th February
- Friday 21st July

Please have a well-earned rest over half term and enjoy the family time together.

I would like to thank the whole school community, staff, children, governors, CDAT, parents, carers and families for their support this half term, Wybunbury Delves is an amazing community!

Enjoy half term!



Mrs Chesters and the Wybunbury Delves Team